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THE BISHOP'S LETTER

My Dear Clergy and People:

Mettled by our double devastation, our civic spirit bids fair to supply a new simile: to rise San Francisco-like from its crashes. Church spirit in its way should not lag a whit behind. Under God, I believe, it is ours to feel a very genius of Easter-tide as we have never felt it before. Like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so should we also walk in newness of life. Praise for our preservation well accords with the season of deliverance from death. But the close realization we have had, through shock and flames, that a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth; the aging seconds of tense consciousness that God is our refuge though the earth be moved; the mercies of escape, all have left their mark upon us. To turn this experience to best account will be to find a closer walk with God, more conscience in our ways, purer and more undefiled religion, self-searching and shame for having taken our Christian vows with so little result, in the phrase of the week to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness.

As a Diocese, we should turn over a new leaf in the way of Church duties, not forsaking the assembling ourselves together for worship as we have been doing so much and with so slight occasion for it. Sacraments should become more precious to us as touching so deeply the very vitality of our religion.

Worldly mindedness should be more eschewed as fatal to Christ's service. Ingrained more into our first thought and habit must be the working principle that all things come of God, and to Him are due our proportionate offerings. And the bond of love and the unity of the Holy Spirit transforming into spiritual gifts the very camaraderie of our common calamity must warm all our hearts with the vision of the things that are not seen which are eternal.

So shall we walk in newness of life!

Your loving friend and Bishop,

WILLIAM F. NICHOLS,

Bishop's House:
San Francisco,
St. Mark's Day, 1906.

As indicative of the religious as well as the public spirit in evidence in these stirring days, the following was unanimously approved by the General Relief Committee, Mayor Schmitz presiding, Friday evening, April 20th, 1906. It was proposed by Bishop Nichols and seconded by Archbishop Montgomery, having also the cordial support of Rabbi Voorsanger:

While applying itself to the immediate relief of the most pressing needs of our citizens, this Committee commends to the religious people of our city bearing the Saint's name, at their earliest services of public worship an expression of Thanksgiving for the many mercies of preservation and of faith in Almighty God to give our people faith for all that lies before them. The committee would recommend the holding of open air services when practicable especially for those who have lost their houses of worship, in our parks and squares after due consultation with the park authorities and between those arranging for such services.

BISHOP'S LETTER TO EASTERN CHURCH PAPERS

We are glad to be allowed to quote the following from a letter sent by the Bishop to the large Eastern Church papers:

"Beyond the limit of self-help, at any rate in the immediate future, I can see some things in which those in the Church at large who are so minded can aid us. And it seems to me at the time of writing, by far the most practicable to send only cash contributions, as supplies are coming in abundant quantities to be distributed by our most efficient General Relief Committee. Such contributions of money will help in these ways:

"(a)—To supply the place of offerings from our city Parishes to support the missionaries in the Diocese for some months ahead. Our Diocesan Missionary treasury is in the main dependent upon the offerings of the large city Parishes, which will now have all, if not more, than they can do to resume anything like their own normal conditions. One-half of our own San Francisco Church buildings, and they are a majority of the more costly edifices, have been demolished by the earthquake and fire.

"(b)—At least nine of our clergy have lost all the belongings of themselves and their families, including libraries, by the fire, several of them not saving enough to make adequate covering in the camps, though this was soon remedied. If I could have a Confidential Fund placed in my hands, it would be most timely and enable me to meet promptly some of these anxieties which are none the less acute because silent and uncomplaining.

"(c)—Some of our institutions, like the Orphanages, their costly buildings being left for all practical use not as valuable as brick piles, the Old Ladies' Home: and indeed all our institutions will be sadly cramped for means, owing to the sheer inability of previous contributors to help them for many months to come, and any contributions to a Sustentation Fund for institutions will be most helpful.

"All contributions to these objects, either undesignated or designated respectively for the 'Emergency Missionary Salary Fund' or the 'Bishop's Confidential Fund' or the 'Sustentation Fund for Institutions' can be sent directly to me at the Bishop's House—the Diocesan House with its records having been burned—at 2515 Webster Street, San Francisco. Due accounts will be kept and audited, and receipts sent, and the two funds other than the Confidential Fund will be administered by proper boards.

The Diocesan headquarters are at the Bishop's House, 2515 Webster Street, where the Archdeacon has his office.

We are fortunate enough to have saved our Mailing List, and this issue is sent to all our subscribers as best we can, although we find that nearly one-half our San Francisco subscribers have changed their addresses suddenly.

The temporary headquarters of the "Pacific Churchman" are at the residence of the Rev. Mardon D. Wilson, Business Manager, 2405 Pacific Avenue, San Francisco.

Our next issue will probably have at least eight pages. For the present we are keeping strictly within our means.

Subscribers will greatly help us by preserving any old copies of the "Pacific Churchman;" in their possession. These may later be needed for completing files.

Eastern friends can help us now by sending in subscriptions in large numbers, to tide us over the present emergency.

We devote this number entirely to the results of the earthquake and fire, especially as they effect the Church, her clergy and her institutions.

The Diocesan House has been destroyed with almost everything contained therein. The contents of the Bishop's office are gone. The books and papers of the Archdeacon, the Secretary and the Registrar were burned. The bound volumes of the "Pacific Churchman," the files of Journals of various Dioceses, the minutes of the Primary Session of the House of Churchwomen, the stock, books and papers of the Sunday School Commission are all gone. Two or three boxes of deeds and other valuable papers are in the vaults of the Crocker Bank.

Grace Church was badly shaken by the earthquake and then destroyed by fire. The Rector, Rev. David Evans had his home burned and lost everything.

The Cathedral Mission of the Good Samaritan with the Boys' Home, the Day Nursery and everything with it, was utterly destroyed. The Rev. J. P. Turner, priest- in charge, was also burned out.

St. Luke's Church was shaken down by the earthquake, and the wreck destroyed by fire. The fire did not reach the residence of the Rector, Rev. B. M. Weeden.

St. John's Church was destroyed by fire. The Rectory was also consumed.

The Church of the Advent was badly wrecked by the earthquake, and then destroyed by fire. The residence of the Rector, Rev. C. M. Lathrop, was also destroyed.

St. Peter's Church was totally destroyed by fire, as was also the residence of the Rector, the Rev. W. M. Bours. This is the second time Mr. Bours has lost his library by fire, the first time some ten years ago in Merced, California.

The Seamen's Institute, including the belongings of the Rev. Frank Stone, Chaplain, was totally burnt up.

The Church of St. Matthew, San Mateo, was almost wrecked by the earthquake, as was the new building of the Armitage Orphanage, in process of construction through the generosity of the children of the late Chas. F. Crocker, as a memorial to their parents. The boys are all safe and comfortable in their temporary quarters erected after the burning of their old home last summer.

Report has it that St. Peter's Church, Redwood City, has also been destroyed. Of this we cannot speak positively.

The building of the Maria Kip Orphanage in San Francisco was so badly damaged by the shock as to be uninhabitable. All the girls escaped without injury, however, are now in comfortable quarters in Ross Valley, and will go into camp near San Anselmo for the summer.

The Rev. D. O. Kelley, the Rev. E. M. W. Hills, the Rev. William Higgs, the Rev. Wyllys Hall, D. D., and the Rev. W. C. Young have all been burned out of house and home.

This, we believe, completes the list of Churches and Institutions whose buildings are destroyed. It is a long list and will cause a very serious setback to the material development of the Church in this Diocese.

But there is a brighter side even to this dark cloud, and we very gladly turn to it. The new Bishop's House, recently completed, is practically uninjured, and as stated above, has now been established as the Diocesan Headquarters, and three at least of the homeless clergy have been gathered into it.

Trinity Church, where the General Convention was held in 1901, is only slightly damaged, and will soon be re-opened for services. It must, however, be added that the Rector, the Rev. Dr. Clampett, has been burned out of house and home.

St. Paul's Church, the Rev. W. M. Reilly, Rector, has also suffered very slightly, and services will soon be resumed. Meanwhile the Church has been turned over to the uses of the Red Cross.

St. Stephen's, All Saints, St. James' and Holy Innocents are practically uninjured, services will soon be resumed, and these Churches have all been loaned to the Red Cross.

The Church of St. Mary the Virgin is apparently intact, and services will soon be resumed. The Rev. Guy L. Wallis, Rector, is among the foremost in practical good works.

The Old Ladies' Home suffered no harm beyond the nervous shock to the inmates, and is now a supply station for free distribution of food.

It is a matter of most devout thankfulness that so far as diligent search can reveal, no clergyman, no member of a clergyman's family, no officer of the Diocese and no inmate of a Diocesan Institution has suffered any personal injury in the midst of all this destruction of a beautiful city.

It is also a cause of thankfulness that one of our clergy, the Rev. C. N. Lathrop, was the first on the scene at the improvised hospital in the Mechanics' Pavilion, and that he and others of our clergy with the Bishop were able to remain there ministering to the sick and dying until it became necessary to remove them to a place of safety when the flames attacked that great structure.

The homes of the Rev. H. B. Collier, Rev. W. E. Hayes, Rev. S. J. Lee, Rev. C. M. Marrack, Rev. David McClure, Ph. D., Rev. W. M. Reilly, Rev. W. T. Renison, Rev. Guy L. Wallis, Rev. B. M. Weeden, Rev. B. D. Weigle and Rev. M. D. Wilson were untouched by the fire, though all were a good deal shaken by the earthquake.

The Rector of Grace Church saved from the Church the Communion Service, his vestments and the records of the Parish.

It is also to be noted that on Saturday, April 21, the Bishop called to his house the clergy of the city; and after prayers and reports of individual conditions, arrangements were made whereby open air services were held in almost every park in the city where refugees were gathered by the thousands.

As to plans for the future it can be said that the Rectors of the Church of the Advent and of St. John's Church have already secured headquarters and starting points. The Rector of Grace Church is, at this writing—April 25—trying to gather his scattered congregation into some hall within the unburned district for a service on Sunday, April 29. The Rector of St. Peter's is diligently seeking his scattered people, there being very few habitable houses left in his Parish. The same can be said of the region allotted to the Cathedral Mission and to Grace Church. The Rector of St. Luke's is planning to hold services temporarily in St. Paul's Church at hours that will not clash with the regular services of the parish. There is prevalent a wonderful spirit of hope and cheer, and out of it all there will surely rise with the new San Francisco church buildings and institutions even more worthy than the old to do the work of the Lord. The Church has been severely chastened, but not extinguished; cast down, but not destroyed.

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICIAL DIRECTORY.

Following is the list of addresses of the clergy of San Francisco as revised since the fire:

Rev. W. M. Bours—The Bishop's House.
Rev. F. W. Clampett, D. D., Trinity Church, Bush and Gough Streets.
Rev. H. B. Collier—1312 Guerrero Street.
Rev. H. A. Collison—The Bishop's House.
Rev. D. J. Evans—1018 Paru Street, Alameda.
Rev. W. E. Hayes—1162 Haight Street.
Rev. Wm. Higgs—750 Church Street.
Rev. D. O. Kelley—Austin Avenue, near Gough Street.
Rev. C. N. Lathrop—323 Haight Street.
Rev. S. J. Lee—306 Second Avenue, Richmond.
Rev. C. M. Marrack—864 Fulton Street.
Rev. David McClure, Ph. D.—2306 Vallejo Street.
Rev. W. M. Reilly—2419 California Street.
Rev. W. T. Renison—1923 Webster Street.
Rev. L. C. Sanford—750 Church Street.
Rev. J. P. Turner—1782 Sutter Street, San Francisco.
Rev. Guy L. Wallis—2311 Union Street.
Rev. B. M. Weeden—2009 Jackson Street.
Rev. M. D. Wilson—2405 Pacific Avenue.

Deaconess E. M. Dorsey has gone to her home in Sonora.

St. Luke's Hospital had its one brick building—the Gibbs Pavilion—badly twisted by the earthquake. The patients were all safely moved to Ingleside, and the whole institution has been temporarily turned over to the uses of the Red Cross.

Mr. W. A. M. Van Bokkelen is safe at 2230 Barrow Street, Berkeley, with his wife and son.

MARRIED—Wednesday, April 25, at 3:00 p. m., at the Bishop's House, San Francisco, by the Bishop of California, the Rev. Cecil M. Marrack and Miss Frances P. Febiger.

A Prayer
For Public and Personal Use
in the
Diocese of California

Almighty God, Father of All Mercies, we give Thee humble thanks for Thy preservation of us through the perils of fire and earthquake and for the sympathy and help they have evoked. Fill us with such a sense of Thy mercy that we may walk in newness of life. Comfort the sorrowing. Heal the sick. Cheer the destitute. Build again the waste places. Bring the peaceable fruit of righteousness to Thy Church. Make us a people more acceptable to Thee and more devoted to Thy service, for the sake of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

The Bishop of California has received telegrams from The General Board of Missions, from Dr. Stires of St. Thomas' Church, New York, from the Diocese of Newark, from the Synod of the Canadian Church, and from a large number of other Eastern friends making generous offers of sympathy and help. We had intended printing three or four of these in this issue, but they have been delayed in the mail between the manager's office and the printer.

"Pacific Churchman."

The Treasurer of the Diocese, Mr. W. A. M. Van Bokkelen, has opened an office at Room 8, 476 13th Street, Oakland, California.

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